

tonight as history is made. Be with us now and forever. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of Ohio led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### MOVING FROM BANK CARE TO HEALTH CARE

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Fifty million Americans without any health insurance, another 50 million underinsured. There has never been a more significant moment where this country has the opportunity to turn crisis into opportunity by making it possible for all Americans for the first time to have a plan of national health care, a universal, single-payer, not-for-profit health care system, where all \$2.2 trillion that is spent for health care will be spent for health care for people and not for profit for insurance companies. Insurance companies make money not providing health care.

With so many Americans without health care today, it is urgent that we recognize the value of H.R. 676 to provide Americans with the coverage they need, plus we stop this system which is excluding people from being able to get the care they need because of the cost of premiums and copays.

This is a moment that we need to seize. H.R. 676, universal, single-payer,

not-for-profit health care. Let's move from bank care to health care.

#### NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Guard Youth Challenge Program. When we invest in the mentoring and education of our children, we provide them a strong foundation for their future success. The National Guard Youth Challenge Program has a proven track record of teaching the leadership, citizenship and life skills that can make a difference in so many lives.

I am particularly proud to have members and supporters of the program here on Capitol Hill today, including General John Conaway, chairman of the National Guard Youth Foundation, and also Colonel Jackie Fogle, Director of the South Carolina Youth Challenge Academy, as they celebrate and bring recognition to the extraordinary work that they are doing on behalf of our Nation's youth.

I am grateful to have introduced legislation that would help expand the resources for these programs to ensure they continue to have a positive impact on the young men and women in our communities. I am particularly grateful to see the plans for success in Guam with Governor Felix Camacho and First Lady Joann Camacho.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

#### MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO ALVIN KING

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday in Memphis, Tennessee, my hometown and the site of Tennessee 9, a great leader in our community passed away, a gentleman by the name of Alvin King.

Alvin King was 73 years old, and during his time in Memphis, he was a political leader. He was an African American gentleman. This is Black History Month. He was the third Memphian elected to the House of Representatives in Tennessee since reconstruction in 1868, and he served in the House of Representatives for 24 years, the third longest serving African American in the Tennessee House of Representatives.

I served with Representative King for 10 of those years when I was a senator and he was a very capable, well-liked and effective legislator.

He did something that is I guess embodied in our President, Barack Obama, showing that people can get beyond race. Alvin King was born in the civil rights era when it was important

in his district that he was African American and that his district elect an African American.

As time went on, he saw the need for people to reach across and get votes from people, regardless of race. And he said in 1991 in a mayoral race when he supported a candidate other than the candidate I supported that black people will vote for white people and white people will vote for black people as long as race isn't the issue, and he supported a white candidate who was the incumbent mayor because he had worked with him as a State legislator, and that was the cause of his defeat in 1992. But he was early in the call for biracial voting.

When I ran for office the first time for this seat that I was successful in 2006, it wasn't particularly popular for African Americans to come out and support me openly. Many did or I wouldn't be here. But he was one of the first, and there wasn't an issue in his mind about race. It was about who could go the best job.

Alvin King was a leader. He leaves three sons and a daughter, a daughter, Esperanza, who he loved as well as his three sons, but who serves as an intern in my office and was the apple of his eye; his sons Alvin, Samuel and Ashley, and his wife, Rosalva, who he dearly loved and will miss him dearly, as will I and the City of Memphis.

#### REPUBLICANS SAY "GET SERIOUS ABOUT FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY: FREEZE SPENDING NOW"

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, during these challenging economic times, American families and small businesses are making sacrifices to make ends meet, and Congress should do the same.

With all the talk about fiscal responsibility in Washington, D.C., it is time for our Democratic colleagues to put our money where their mouth is, and Republicans are willing to come together across the aisle and make the hard choices necessary to put our fiscal house in order.

Judging from what is scheduled to come to the floor tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, it looks like the majority just doesn't get it. Just slightly over one week after passing a \$1 trillion so-called stimulus bill, Democrats in Congress are planning to pass another big spending bill, \$410 billion, 9,000 earmarks as usual, the largest increase in discretionary spending since the Carter administration.

House Republicans and millions of Americans are saying enough is enough. Let's do what every American family, what the every small business is doing. Let's freeze Federal spending immediately and come together to get this Congress' house in order.

## PRESIDENT OBAMA WILL BRING ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE BUDGET PROCESS

(Mr. WILSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, tonight the American people will hear the truth about the fiscal situation that President Obama inherited.

There won't be any sugarcoating in the form of accounting gimmicks that hide the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, natural disasters and some Medicare payments. President Obama believes that government should be honest, and he is doing the right thing by eliminating accounting gimmicks. Such tricks gave the false impression that the government was actually addressing our Nation's fiscal mess when it really wasn't.

Mr. Speaker, tonight President Obama will level with the American people about the \$1.3 trillion deficit that he inherited from President Bush. In the days ahead, we will work with President Obama to make the hard choices necessary to put us back on a fiscally responsible path.

## CONGRESS MUST QUIT SPENDING

(Mr. LATTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, last week it was my privilege during our work period back in the district to be at seven of my county courthouses. What I did was I met one-on-one all morning and all afternoon and we got locked into the courthouses in the evenings to talk to these people that we represent. And they are concerned. They are concerned about the spending that has been going on in this Congress.

I had one gentleman wait 4 hours, 4 hours, to come up and just sit across from the desk from me for 30 seconds and say we are spending too much money in this country. They are worried about what is happening to their future, to their kids' future and their grandkids' future.

You know, it is tough when you pick up the paper and try to explain it to them. They say, where is this money coming from that is being borrowed? Over the weekend we saw the Secretary of State was over in China with cup in hand saying we need you to keep buying our debt.

The folks back home are concerned about their future and they want this Congress to do something, and that means we have got to quit spending.

## FIXING THE BUDGET

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Well, we just heard from the Republican side of the aisle that they are ready to make the tough

fiscal choices. Unfortunately, they are about 8 years and \$5 trillion short with their newfound fiscal conservatism.

Remember, George Bush inherited a surplus. What was the answer to the surplus? Tax cuts. Then we had the attacks of 9/11. What was the answer to that? Tax cuts. Then we had the misbegotten war in Iraq. What was the answer to that? Tax cuts. A war fought on borrowed money and tax cuts. And then we had the bank collapse and the recession growing into a depression. And what was the answer of George Bush? Tax cuts. And what is the answer of the Republicans today? Tax cuts.

For them to say they are for fiscal responsibility and honest budgeting after those 8 years is laughable. The Obama administration is going to give it straight to the American people tonight. They have made a hash out of it, and we are going to try to fix it, but it is going to take some time.

## STIMULATE THE ECONOMY—DRILL OFFSHORE

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, some day in the future we may live in a land flowing with renewable green energy, windmills on every corner, cute little battery-operated cars in every garage. But the path to blissful nirvana is long and we have just begun that journey.

Right now, our primary fuel source for vehicles is crude oil, whether we like it or not. We get most of it from the Middle East. We transfer billions of dollars of taxpayer money to countries that don't like us or respect us, countries that have ties to radical terrorists that want to kill us.

The American people support clean offshore drilling. It is good for the country. We will keep our money in America instead of sending it overseas. Offshore drilling creates high-paying jobs for Americans. We reduce the risk of oil spills from tankers from the Middle East. Oil companies will send millions of dollars to our Treasury for the right to lease offshore, and it can be done cleanly and safely.

But the new administration has blocked offshore drilling. With all the rhetoric about stimulating the economy, one would think that a real stimulus would be to drill off our shores and bring jobs and money to Americans instead of going into debt with the elusive stimulus package.

And that's just the way it is.

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## RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MIKE SHEEHY

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mike Sheehy, the National

Security Adviser for the Speaker. Mike Sheehy has given three decades of service to his country, much of it here in the House of Representatives.

When the Speaker first appointed me to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence 6 years ago, Mike was one of the first people I turned to. His deep experience on intelligence matters, as well as his knowledge of the House and its Members, have served the Speaker and all of us well over the years.

Especially after the Speaker asked me to chair the Select Intelligence Oversight Panel, I have frequently sought his advice on a wide range of issues, and I've found him to be always thoughtful and well-informed, and I might add, always calm. He is a consummate professional.

As he leaves his position here on Capitol Hill, I and others want to recognize him, thank him and wish him well.

## \$410 BILLION "OMINOUS" APPROPRIATIONS BILL

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, the House will vote on the \$410 billion "ominous" appropriations bill this week. The bill's text was finished weeks ago but kept secret from the American people, and now we know why. The legislation contains 9,000 earmarks to be approved, ironically, the same week as we had a fiscal responsibility summit.

Last night, my staff and I stayed up to read this bill, longer than the stimulus. We found no less than 12 earmarks for clients of a lobbying firm that was raided by the FBI 3 months ago. The leaders of Paul Magliocchetti and Associates will likely go to jail, but their earmarks from this criminal enterprise are in this legislation, totaling over \$8 million of the taxpayers' money, all approved by the leaders of this House. This is irresponsible spending by a criminal enterprise to the detriment of this Congress.

## PRESIDENT OBAMA WILL PRESENT AN HONEST BUDGET THAT CUTS THE DEFICIT IN HALF IN FIVE YEARS

(Ms. SUTTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, President Obama inherited a fiscal mess created by 8 years of Republican economic and fiscal policies. Tonight, our new President will begin the slow process of restoring fiscal discipline to Washington. He will do that first by leveling with the American people about the true costs of the budget he'll release on Thursday.

Second, he will re-institute the pay-as-you-go guidelines similar to those that have been in place here in the Democratic House now for the last 2